

Case Docket 15431-US

15 January 2002

THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In re application of: Steven Henry Buss et al.

For: CUTTING IMPLEMENT INCLUDING FLOW DIVERTER BAFFLE

Serial Number: 09/902,077

Filing Date: 9 July 2001

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GROUP 3600

FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with 37 CFR 1.56 and guided by 37 CFR 1.97 - 1.99, applicants respectfully submit the following information including copies of the documents listed on the attached form.

REMARKS

Applicants are providing herewith copies of illustrations showing baffles which may be attached to a mower deck. When attached to the deck shown therein, the baffles shown on the page entitled "D3" (page 55-6) extend horizontally, the baffles shown on the page entitled "D23" (page 60-8) extend vertically, and the baffles shown on the page entitled "D25" (page 60-10) extend vertically and horizontally, respectively.

Additionally, Applicants are providing photographs of decks equipped with such baffles. These photographs correspond to the illustrations in the following manner: photographs 1-2 relate to the page entitled "D3" whereby the baffles are shown above the cutting plane of the blade(s); photographs 3-4 relate to the page entitled "D23" whereby the baffles are shown to be below the cutting plane of the blade(s); and photographs 5-7 relate to the page entitled "D25" whereby the vertical portion of the baffle extends below the cutting plane of the blade and the horizontal portion thereof is at or slightly below the cutting plane.

Further provided are photographs numbered 8-9 which show a baffle used in connection with mower decks manufactured by John Deere whereby the baffle is shown above the cutting plane of the blade.

The baffles shown in photographs 1-9 have been commercially available for more than one year prior to 9 July 2001, the filing date of the above identified application.



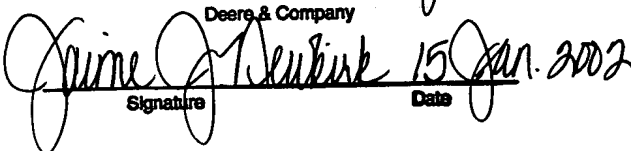
Respectfully,


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BHB/jjn

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231, on 15 Jan. 2002
Date

Deere & Company

Signature Date 15 Jan. 2002